

Message Text

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ACTION DLOS-07

INFO OCT-01 AF-10 ARA-16 EA-11 ISO-00 CG-00 CIAE-00

DODE-00 PM-07 H-03 INR-10 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-07 PA-04

RSC-01 PRS-01 SP-03 SS-20 USIA-15 CEQ-02 COA-02

COME-00 EB-11 EPA-04 IO-14 NSF-04 SCI-06 FEA-02

ACDA-19 AEC-11 DOTE-00 FMC-04 INT-08 JUSE-00 OMB-01

OIC-04 TRSE-00 DRC-01 /212 W
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R 081631Z JUL 74

FM AMEMBASSY CARACAS

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 4528

INFO AMEMBASSY JAKARTA

AMEMBASSY MANILA

AMEMBASSY SUVA

AMEMBASSY PORT LOUIS

S E C R E T CARACAS 6185

FROM US DEL LOS

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PLOS

SUBJECT: LOS: BILATERAL CONSULTATIONS WITH FIJI

1. US DEL ARCHIPELAGO TEAM LED BY PROF. MOORE MET WITH NANDAN AND MCLOUGHLIN OF FIJI ON JULY 4. PURPOSE OF SESSION WAS TO REVIEW ARCHIPELAGIC PROPOSAL PRESENTED TO INDONESIA AND THE PHILIPPINES. DISCUSSIONS WERE FRANK AND FRIENDLY. AND DEALT IN CONSIDERABLE DETAIL WITH NUANCES OF US PROPOSAL.

2. FIJIANS INDICATED GENERAL SASISFACTION WITH PROPOSAL AS FORMULATED TO ACCOMMODATE THEIR NEEDS, BUT STATED THAT US PROPOSAL SHOULD BE APPLICABLE TO OTHER ARCHIPELAGIC

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STATES OR CREDIBILITY OF FIJI MIGHT BE IMPAIRED. THEY ALSO

SUGGESTED THAT TERM "UNIMPEDED PASSAGE" BE USED TO DESCRIBE TRANSIT REGIME IN ARCHIPELAGO. THEY POINTED OUT THAT THEY HAD OFFSHORE PETROLEUM CONCESSIONS PLANNED FOR AREAS WHERE SEALANES WOULD BE. BOTH SIDES AGREED THAT IT WOULD BE HELPFUL IF US PROPOSAL CONTAINED ACCOMMODATION OF USES LANGUAGE AND WE AGREED TO WORK WITH THEM IN FINDING A SUITABLE FORMULATION.

3. FIJIAN REPS STRESSED THAT INDONESIA OBJECTED TO WIDTH OF PASSAGE LANES IN US PROPOSAL. MCLOUGHLIN ASKED THAT US REACTION WOULD BE IF INDONESIA AND PHILIPPINES DO NOT BUY US PROPOSAL -- WOULD US CONSIDER ARCHIPELAGIC SETTLEMENT WITHOUT INDONESIA AND THE PHILIPPINES? US RESPONSE WAS THAT IT WAS ESSENTIAL TO REACH AGREEMENT WITH AT LEAST INDONESIA AND HIGHLY DESIRABLE TO DO SO WITH PHILIPPINES AS WELL. NANDAN STATED THAT FIJI HAD NOT CONSULTED WITH OTHERS AS THE REAL NEGOTIATIONS FOR INDONESIA AND THE PHILIPPINES HAD NOT YET ARRIVED IN CARACAS.

4. AT NO POINT DID FIJIAN REPS OBJECT TO SUBMERGED TRANSIT OR OVERFLIGHT.

5. PROF. MOORE INFORMED FIJIAN THAT US NEGOTIATING TASK WAS MUCH MORE DIFFICULT NOW BECAUSE OF NEGATIVE REACTION FROM THE PHILIPPINES AND HE EMPHASIZED THAT AN EARLY RESOLUTION OF THE ISSUE WAS ESSENTIAL TO US.

6. FIJIAN ALSO SAID THAT AT BEST ANY ARCHIPELAGIC REGIME WOULD HAVE ROUGH SLEDDING IN THE CONFERENCE AS MANY STATES VIEW CONCEPT AS DIMINUTION OF AREA AVAILABLE FOR COMMON HERITAGE.

7. AS FINAL POINT, MCLOUGHLIN SUGGESTED US DELEGATION CONTACT REPS FROM MAURITIUS TO EXPLAIN US PROPOSALS ON THIS SUBJECT.
STEVENSON

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